

March 2007 Winterport Recreation Department Report

February 16th through March 22nd

Board News –

The Recreation Board held its March meeting on 3/14. Our discussion at this meeting focused on the past basketball season, our 2007-2008 budget, and the upcoming baseball season. The proposed budget has been submitted to the Town and reviewed with the Budget Committee. The Board expresses its thanks to Dave Lester and all involved in making the recent Sledding Party a success. We are looking forward to improving on the event for next year. Additions have been made to the website. Minutes of the last several meetings are posted and the minutes of our March meeting will soon be made available. An Upcoming Events section has been added and information has been posted for the Spring Youth Baseball. Our next monthly meeting is scheduled for April 12th at 6:00pm in the Victoria Grant Civic Center.

Sponsored Programs –

- Adult BBALL (men) The Recreation Department makes Wagner Gym available on Sundays for Men's 5x5 basketball. There continues to be a steady number of folks showing up to play.
- Adult BBALL (women) The Recreation Department makes Wagner Gym available on Tuesdays from 5-6:30pm for women's basketball. They will be starting up again on January 30th.
- Travel Basketball Travel basketball has been going well and will be wrapping up with the final tournament on March 24th.
- Spring Youth Baseball Information for Recreation Baseball has been sent out to the students and posted on the Website. Registration night is March 28th at the Smith School.

Recreation Coordinator's Report –

The month started out with our night sliding party. With the help of Dave Nason, Phil Pitula and Sam Butler they were able to get the ice rink in great shape for the event. Norm Poirier brought lights and music. Troop 234 had a grand bon fire that kept everyone warm when needed. With the lack of notice to our kids from our schools, we felt it was a success with around 70 - 80 of our children present. I would like to thank everyone that pitched in and helped with this event.

Basketball is winding down with our travel teams playing their last weekend tournament on the 24th. There has been some discussion of the possibility of our district's three towns having a joint basketball program next year. I have been in the process of working on a plan that may work for all the towns. Hampden children have been joining Newburgh's recreation program for years and those kids eventually hook up at Reeds Brook in 6th grade. Hoping to help our children's transition from Winterport schools to Hampden Academy, by making this work and getting the kids together at an earlier age within our recreation programs, the anxiety of this transition may be lowered. For this to work, all three Recreation Departments must be on the same page and everyone involved feel it is the right move.

Spring is just around the corner. It will not be long for us to hear the crack of the bat on our baseball fields. Baseball forms have been handed out at both our schools.

I would like to invite any town resident that would like to get involved with a possible spring or summer event that would bring our families and townspeople together. Please do not hesitate too call me at 223-4104 with any ideas or suggestions.

Upcoming Events –

In the next month, the Recreation Board will be helping to the run the Spring Youth Baseball season. We will also be scheduling our Policies and Procedures workshop and hopefully finalizing the initial document. We will continue to make updates to our website and set our sights on planning any additional Spring and Summer events.